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RE: BOBBY JOE FAULKNER

On April 29, 1968, BOBBY JOE FAULKNER, employed by Alleghany Electric Company, a subcontractor of Rust Engineering Company, MacMillian-Bloedel Paper Mill Site, Yellow Bluff, Alabama, residing at Kimbrough Trailer Park, with father, JAMES FAULKNER, advised Special Agents ROBERT L. FRYE and DAVID A. CHANEY as follows:

He lived at Garner's Rooming House, Atlanta, Georgia, located on 107 14th Street, during the latter part of January and first part of February, 1968, while employed on a Government housing project in the Atlanta area. He left Garner's in February and moved to Chestatee Inn, Ponce De Leon Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. On about April 1, 1968, FAULKNER returned to Garner's and obtained a room at the "Second House", operated by GARNER, which is next door to 107 14th Street.

FAULKNER claimed that GARNER had closed this house for a period of time as GARNER said, "the hippies were moving in on me." When FAULKNER returned to Garner's about April 1, 1968, he obtained a similar room in this house that GARNER had closed for a period of time.

FAULKNER claimed he knew of no one else who lived in the second house with him during the period of about April 2-8, 1968, except an individual he described as a white male, 50 years of age or older, 6', 150-160 pounds, gray hair, wrinkled rough skin on face. FAULKNER claimed this individual did not resemble any of the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, also known as ERIC STARVO GALT. He does not know where this individual was employed, but he wore gray work clothes.

FAULKNER recalls that this person was in the company of two other individuals on the evening of April 1, 1968, when he was waiting for GARNER on the front porch of the house to see about a room. These two other persons were on the porch; one was a white male, 40-45 years of age,

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5'8" or 5'10", 200-250 pounds, dark brown hair, balding on the top. This individual apparently had a throat operation as he had a hole in his throat covered by a piece of gauze and spoke in a gruff whisper. The other man was a white male in his late forties, 5'6" to 5'8", gray hair, and was "very short". Both of these men had on gray work clothes and he assumed that they were possibly electricians. The man who stayed in the house with him was with these two men on that evening.

FAULKNER stated that the only other person who in any way resembled the photograph of RAY was a "young fellow", name unknown, who lived in the second floor, in the front bedroom of the house at 107 14th Street. This individual resembled the photo of RAY which is shown on Identification Order with close cropped hair. FAULKNER pointed out, however, that this "young fellow" whom he described as a white male, 25-30 years of age, about 5'10", 140 pounds, light brown close cropped hair, driving a 1963 or 1964 gold colored Plymouth, had roomed at Garner's for "a long period of time". This person appeared to be well-educated, and FAULKNER thought the person was a "college student."

FAULKNER stated that although the Missouri State Penitentiary photograph of JAMES EARL RAY resembles the individual he does not believe the "young fellow" could have been RAY.

FAULKNER states he believes the time he was at Garner's Rooming House on the second occasion was the period of April 2-8, 1968, as he recalled hearing the news of KING's death in Memphis while he was at Garner's the second time. He had checked in at the rooming house two or three days prior to the time he heard the news on the radio. He recalled that Friday of that week he left work early, went to his home in Columbus, Georgia for the weekend, and on the following Monday, which was April 8, 1968, he turned his key in to GARNER at Garner's Restaurant, located on Northside Drive, Atlanta, Georgia. He did not return to the rooming house after the early morning of April 5, 1968, which was the preceeding Friday. FAULKNER stated

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he left Atlanta after he picked up his money at the job on April 8, 1968, and traveled to Pine Hill, Alabama, where he has been employed since that time and has not returned to Atlanta. FAULKNER left Atlanta alone and came to Pine Hill, Alabama, where he is working with his father, JAMES FAULKNER at the paper mill site at Yellow Bluff, Alabama.

FAULKNER advised that during his last stay at 107 14th Street, Atlanta, in January and February, 1968, he shared room with ERNEST WILLIAM HARPER of Columbus, Georgia. He stated that at no time during his residence at this address did he see a white Mustang automobile parked in that area.